MARVEL

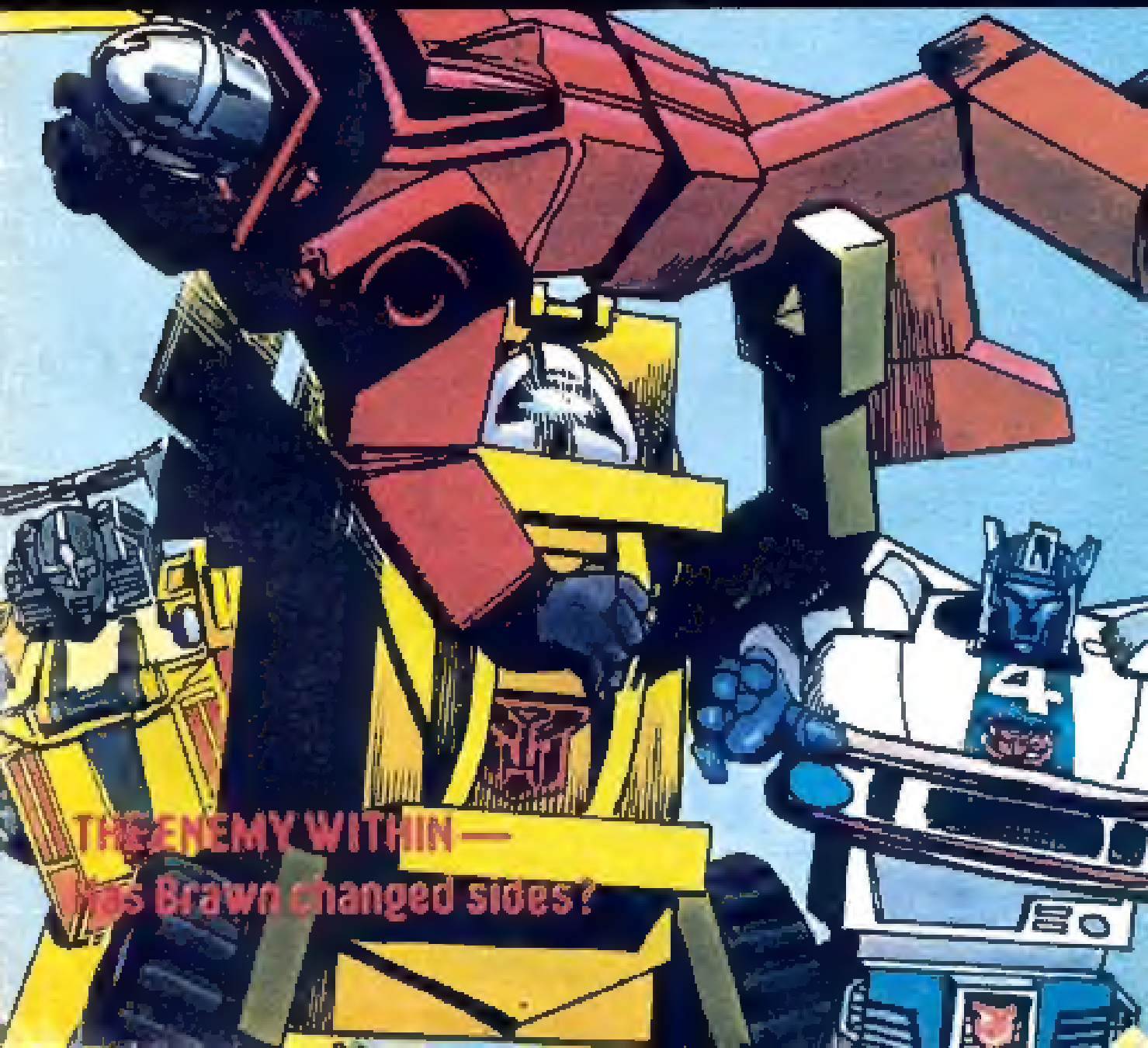
FORTNIGHTLY
9th Mar.—22nd Mar. 1985 No 13 27p

A NEW TRANSFORMERS STORY STARTS INSIDE!

THE TRANSFORMERS

HEROIC AUTOBOT

WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE



THE ENEMY WITHIN!

THIS IS **MEGATRON**, LEADER OF THE EVIL **DECEPTICONS**...

AND HE IS NOT AMUSED!

HOW DARE YOU?

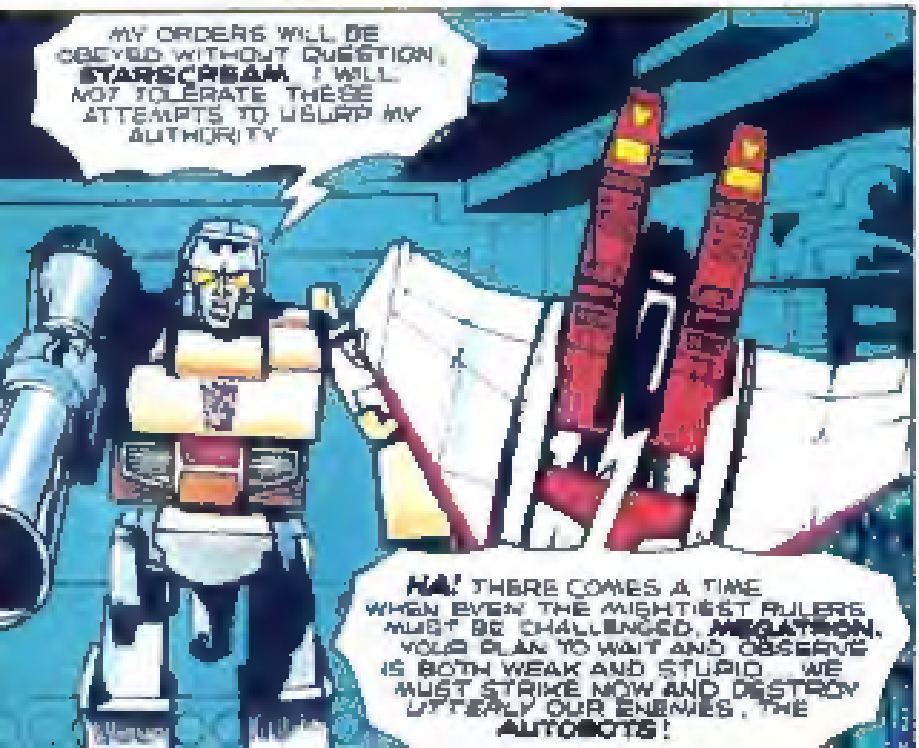
SCRIPT
SIMON FURMAN

ART
JOHN RIDGWAY

LETTERS
RICHARD STARKINGS

COLOURS
GINA HART

EDITOR SHEILA CRANNA



THERE IS MUCH TO LEARN ON THIS WORLD. RESOURCES UNHEARD OF ON **CYBERTRON** THAT WE CAN TAP

EVEN SOME OF THE HUMANS THEMSELVES MAY PROVE TO BE USEFUL. OUR EXPERIENCE OF THE COSTUMED ADVENTURER, **SPIDERMAN**, PROVED THAT THEY ARE NOT *ALL* HELPLESS

NO! YOUR PLAN IS REJECTED, STARSCREAM WILL DISCUSS THE MATTER NO FURTHER!

I DON'T LIKE THIS **SKYWARP**. STARSCREAM SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT FOR A VOTE. FOR ONE, THINK ATTACK IS ALWAYS BEST

PERHAPS, **RUMBLE**, BUT IT IS UNWISE TO PROVOKE MEGATRON. HIS TOLERANCE IS NOT LIMITLESS

THEN STARSCREAM IS **DEAD**!

I WON'T LET THIS DROP. THE *MIGHTY* MEGATRON CAN JUST

PHATOOM!

NO, NO! GREAT MEGATRON, I BEG YOU!

SILENCE! YOUR GROVELLING OFFENDS ME MORE THAN YOUR INSOLENCE! BEGONE, BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND!

AS STARSCREAM DEPARTS HIS FELLOW **DECEPTICONS** LOOK ON... MANY THOUGHTS PASS THROUGH THEIR MINDS...

THOUGHTS THAT GO UNSAID FOR NOW, THOUGHTS THAT WILL SMOULDER, THOUGHTS THAT SAY STARSCREAM WAS RIGHT...

TREACHEROUS THOUGHTS!

AND STARSCREAM SMILES!

WAS IT WISE TO LET STARSCREAM OFF LIKE THAT?

HAD I DESTROYED HIM MANY MAY HAVE TURNED AGAINST ME! I HAVE GREAT FAITH IN STARSCREAM CONTINUING HIS TREACHERY, AND ONCE DISCOVERED GIVING ME THE EXCUSE TO DISPOSE OF HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL

FIND ME THAT EXCUSE!

THE ARK, A MASTERPIECE OF TECHNOLOGICAL DESIGN...

MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO IT BROUGHT THE AUTOBOTS THROUGH COUNTLESS LIGHT YEARS OF SPACE...

IT HAS SEEN BETTER DAYS!

ARE YOU GOING TO BE MUCH LONGER MIRAGE?

STOP COMPLAINING, BRAWN! I SHOULD BE FINISHED IN A MINUTE...

HUH! YOU SAID THAT AN HOUR AGO. AND AN HOUR BEFORE THAT, AND...

THERE! THAT SHOULD DO IT!

I THINK WE'LL GIVE IT A TEST RUN BEFORE YOU PUT IT DOWN. ARE YOU READY, BRAWN?

ARE YOU READY?" HE ASKS. I'VE BEEN READY FOR THE PAST FEW HOURS! SOMETIMES I THINK YOU'RE JUST USING

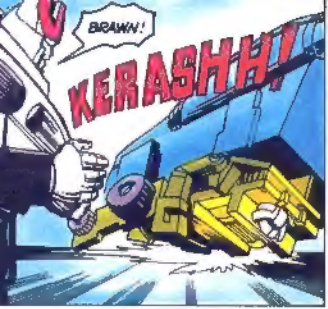
BRAKOOM!

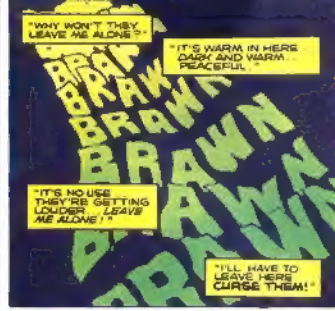
MEEEAAARRGH!

QUICKLY THE MAIN LEAD... RIP IT OUT!

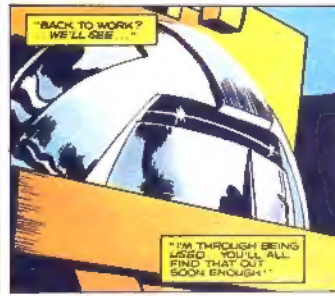
HURRY! HE'S IN AGONY!

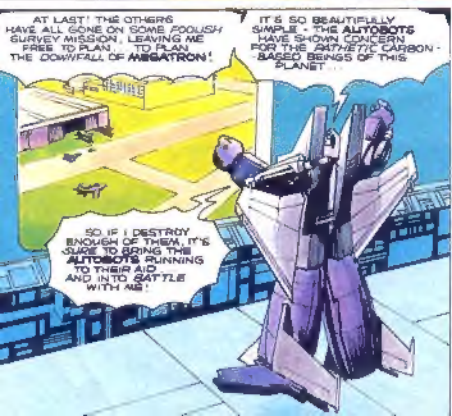
THERE! DONE IT!


BRAWN!
KERASHH!


"WHY WON'T THEY LEAVE ME ALONE?"
"IT'S WARM IN HERE DARK AND WARM... PEACEFUL..."
BRAWN
"IT'S NO USE THEY'RE GETTING LOUDER... LEAVE ME ALONE!"
"I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE HERE CURSE THEM!"

BRAWN...? BRAWN? LOOK! HE'S OPENING HIS EYES. HE'S ALL RIGHT. SOON HAVE HIM BACK TO WORK!


"BACK TO WORK? WE'LL SEE..."
"I'M THROUGH BEING USED. YOU'LL ALL FIND THAT OUT SOON ENOUGH!"


AT LAST! THE OTHERS HAVE ALL GONE ON SOME FOOLISH SURVEY MISSION, LEAVING ME FREE TO PLAN THE DOWNFALL OF MEGATRON!
IT'S SO BEAUTIFULLY SIMPLE - THE AUTOBOTS HAVE SHOWN CONCERN FOR THE AQUATIC CARBON-BASED BEINGS OF THIS PLANET...
SO, IF I DESTROY ENOUGH OF THEM, IT'S SURE TO BRING THE AUTOBOTS RUNNING TO THEIR AID AND INTO BATTLE WITH ME!

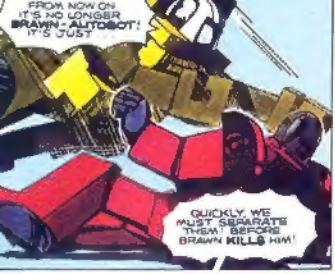
AND, ONCE THE AUTOBOTS ATTACK ME, MY FELLOW DECEPTICONS WILL HAVE TO JOIN IN THE FRAY
RESULTING IN THE TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THE AUTOBOTS!
THIS WILL PROVE ME RIGHT AND GIVE THE OTHERS NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT ME AS THEIR TRUE LEADER!

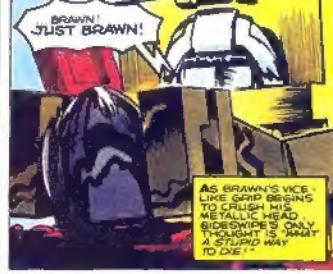
IT'S A GOOD PLAN. I'LL GIVE HIM THAT. TRIPLE OVER-CONFIDENT, BUT GOOD. IT APPEALS TO MY DEVIOUS NATURE!
HOWEVER, I KNOW WHERE MY LOYALTIES LIE. I MUST REPORT THIS TO MEGATRON!
PREOCCUPIED, RAVAGE IS CARELESS FOR A MOMENT
AND
WHAT THE...?
SOMETHING MOVED OVER THERE. THAT REFLECTION!
RAVAGE!
DISCOVERED! NOW I'VE GOT PROBLEMS!
WAIT, RAVAGE! WE CAN TALK. DON'T MAKE ME COME AFTER YOU!
THAT WAY ONLY LEADS
...OUTSIDE!...
A BARREN, FEATURELESS DESERT - AND I'M BEING CHASED BY SOMEONE WHO CAN BECOME A FIGHTER JET!
THIS MAY CALL FOR A MAJOR REASSESSMENT OF MY LOYALTIES!
SO YOU CHOOSE TO FLEE. SO BE IT. NOW FACE THE UNFETTERED WRATH OF STARSCREAM!
UNFETTERED WRATH? HA! I'LL PIT MY POWERS AGAINST YOURS ANY DAY
EVEN IN THESE CONDITIONS!
NOW YOU SHALL SEE WHY I AM THE MOST SOPHISTICATED OF THE DECEPTICONS...
FOR NOT ONLY AM I A MASTER TACTICIAN
BUT, IN THIS FORM, I AM THE FASTEST AND DEADLIEST OF THEM ALL!

BUT...
WHAT ?! HE'S VANISHED! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! HE NEEDS COVER OR SHADOW!
WHERE COULD HE HAVE
...GONE?
SURPRISE, SUCKER!
VAROOOOOSH!
SHOOOOM!
FLEEING, RAVAGE HEADS FOR HIGHER GROUND.
I HAD HIM COLD AND HE STILL EVADED MY PROTON MISSILES!
HE'S ALL THE FLIER HE SAYS HE IS AND MORE!
UH OH! DEAD END!
AH! I HAVE YOU NOW!
IT'S NOT OVER YET! I'LL TEAR YOU WING FROM WING!

CHU ROOM!
SOME NINETY TONS OF ROCK ARE RIPPED FREE BY THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION...
ITS IMPACT ROCKS THE VALLEY FLOOR BELOW AND ECHOES FOR LONG MINUTES AFTER THE LAST STONE HAS FALLEN...
AND THEN THERE IS JUST SILENCE...
HMM. A PITY RAVAGE WOULD HAVE MADE AN EXCELLENT ALLY.
STILL, I MUST THANK HIM FOR ONE THING...
NOW I HAVE DONE THIS. THERE IS NO TURNING BACK!
MEANWHILE, ON THE ARK...
THERE IS NO TURNING BACK. THEY THINK THAT BRAWN IS THEIR TOOL TO BE USED AS THEY SEE FIT.
AND THAT I WILL NOT ALLOW!

HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT FOR HOURS. WON'T SPEAK TO ANYONE!
I KNOW. I'VE TRIED TO TALK TO HIM, BUT HE DOESN'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW HIS OLD FRIEND, MIRAGE, ANYMORE!
WELL, ALL I KNOW IS THAT WITHOUT HIM WE CAN'T GET ON WITH SOME OF THE HEAVY WORK...
I'M GOING TO HAVE A WORD WITH HIM!
NOW LOOK, BRAWN, WE NEED YOU TO WORK ON THE...
WORK! WORK! WORK! WORK! THAT'S ALL I EVER HEAR!
I'LL SHOW YOU! I WON'T BE USED!
I WON'T!
KERRUMP!
UNNGH!

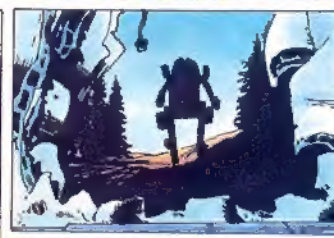

FROM NOW ON IT'S NO LONGER BRAWN - AUTOBOT! IT'S JUST
QUICKLY, WE MUST SEPARATE THEM! BEFORE BRAWN KILLS HIM!


BRAWN! JUST BRAWN!
AS BRAWN'S VICE-LIKE GRIP BEGINS TO CRUSH HIS METALLIC HEAD, SIDESWIPE'S ONLY THOUGHT IS "WHAT A STUPID WAY TO DIE!"

NO! WHATEVER MADNESS HAS GRIPPED YOU HAS MADE YOU CONFUSE FRIEND WITH ENEMY. AND WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS!

WRONG! YOU ARE ALL MY ENEMIES!

AND THIS IS WHAT I WILL DO TO YOU, IF YOU CROSS MY PATH AGAIN!
KERRANG!



WAS IT SOMETHING I SAID?
I FEAR, MY FRIEND, THAT OUR TROUBLES WITH BRAWN MAY ONLY JUST BE BEGINNING! IF HE TAKES ACTION AGAINST THE HUMAN POPULACE, WE WILL HAVE TO STOP HIM!

U.S. AIR FORCE BASE OREGON FOUR ALPHA ONE OF AMERICA'S DEFENCE STATIONS DESIGNED TO COUNTERSTRIKE IN THE EVENT OF AIRBORNE INVASION
IT'S PRECISE LOCATION IS A CLOSELY GUARDED SECRET AND THANKFULLY TO DATE HAS SEEN NO ACTION
THAT'S ABOUT TO CHANGE
SIR, SIR MAJOR GORDON RADAR CONTROL REPORTS A U.F.O. ON THEIR SCREENS CLOSING IN ON US FAST
ANY SCHEDULED AIR TRAFFIC IN THIS SECTOR?
NONE, SIR WE TRIED TO CONTACT IT BUT IT REFUSES TO RESPOND
RED ALERT! RED ALERT! WE ARE UNDER ATTACK FROM ENEMY AIRCRAFT!
GROUND AND AIR STAFF TO FULL ALERT DEFENCE POSITIONS
AIR CREW
THIS IS NOT A DRILL REPEAT THIS IS NOT A DRILL!
OH LORD IN THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
WHAT IS IT MAN? QUICKLY
THE U.F.O. HAS PICKED UP SPEED TO A PHENOMENAL DEGREE IT'S GET A JUST DROPPED FROM FIVE MINUTES TO ABOUT FIVE SECONDS
OH MY

TREMBLE HUMANS! FOR TODAY YOU DIE!
NEXT!
"THE BEST LAID PLANS"

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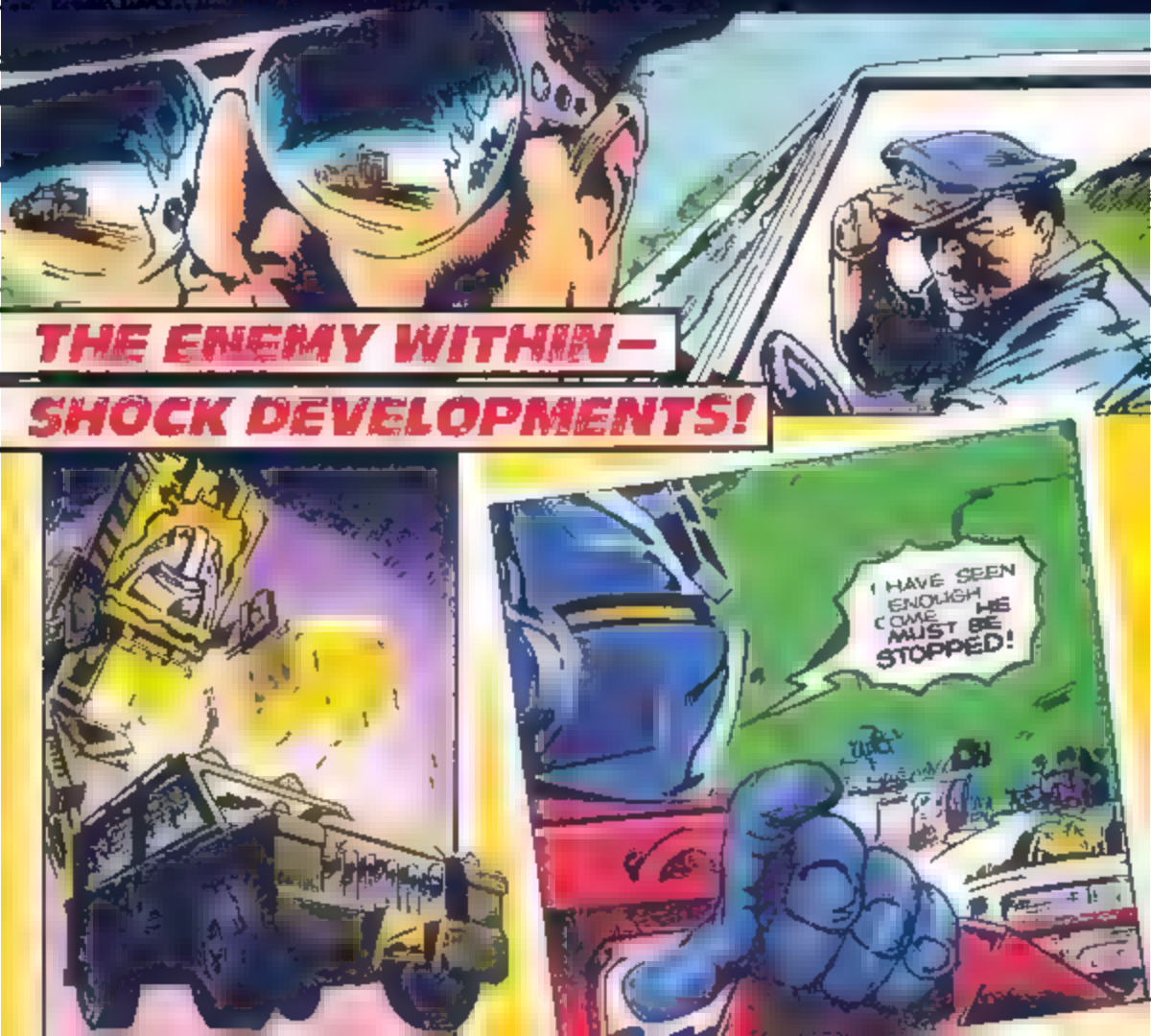
THE TRANSFORMERS

HEROIC AUTOBOT

WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE



THE ENEMY WITHIN— SHOCK DEVELOPMENTS!

THE ENEMY WITHIN!

PART 2: THE BEST LAID PLANS...

HE DRAGS HIMSELF PAINFULLY ACROSS THE DESERT FLOOR. EACH YARD SEEMS LIKE A MILE

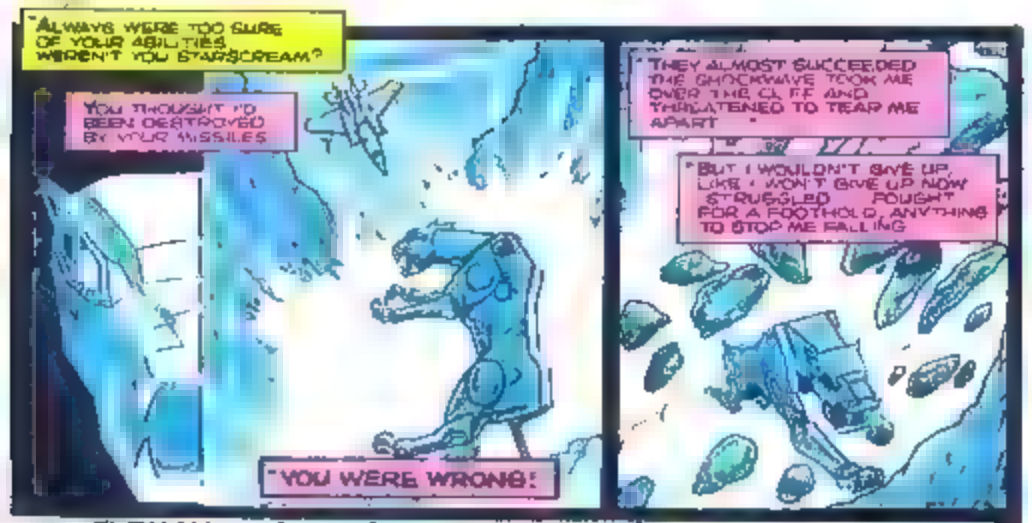
BATTERED AND BROKEN, THE DECEPTICON SPY *RAVAGE* IS ONLY KEPT GOING BY A BURNING DESIRE FOR *REVENGE*.

REVENGE ON THE ONE WHO HAS LEFT HIM FOR DEAD. *REVENGE* ON THE ONE WHOM HE RECENTLY CALLED TEAM MATE. *REVENGE* ON

STARSCREAM!

'I'LL SEE YOU *DESTROYED* FOR THIS!'

'I'LL MAKE YOU *SUFFER* FOR DARING TO ATTACK ME AND FOR NOT MAKING SURE THAT YOU'D FINISHED ME OFF.



SCRIPT FURMAN ART COLLINS LETTERS STARKINGS COLOURS HART EDITOR CRANNA

"AND I FOUND IT! AN IMPOSSIBLY NARROW LEDGE BUT ENOUGH TO KEEP ME ALIVE!"

NOW IF I CAN JUST KEEP GOING A LITTLE LONGER

ERRRR

I CAN'T GO ON! I'VE FAILED

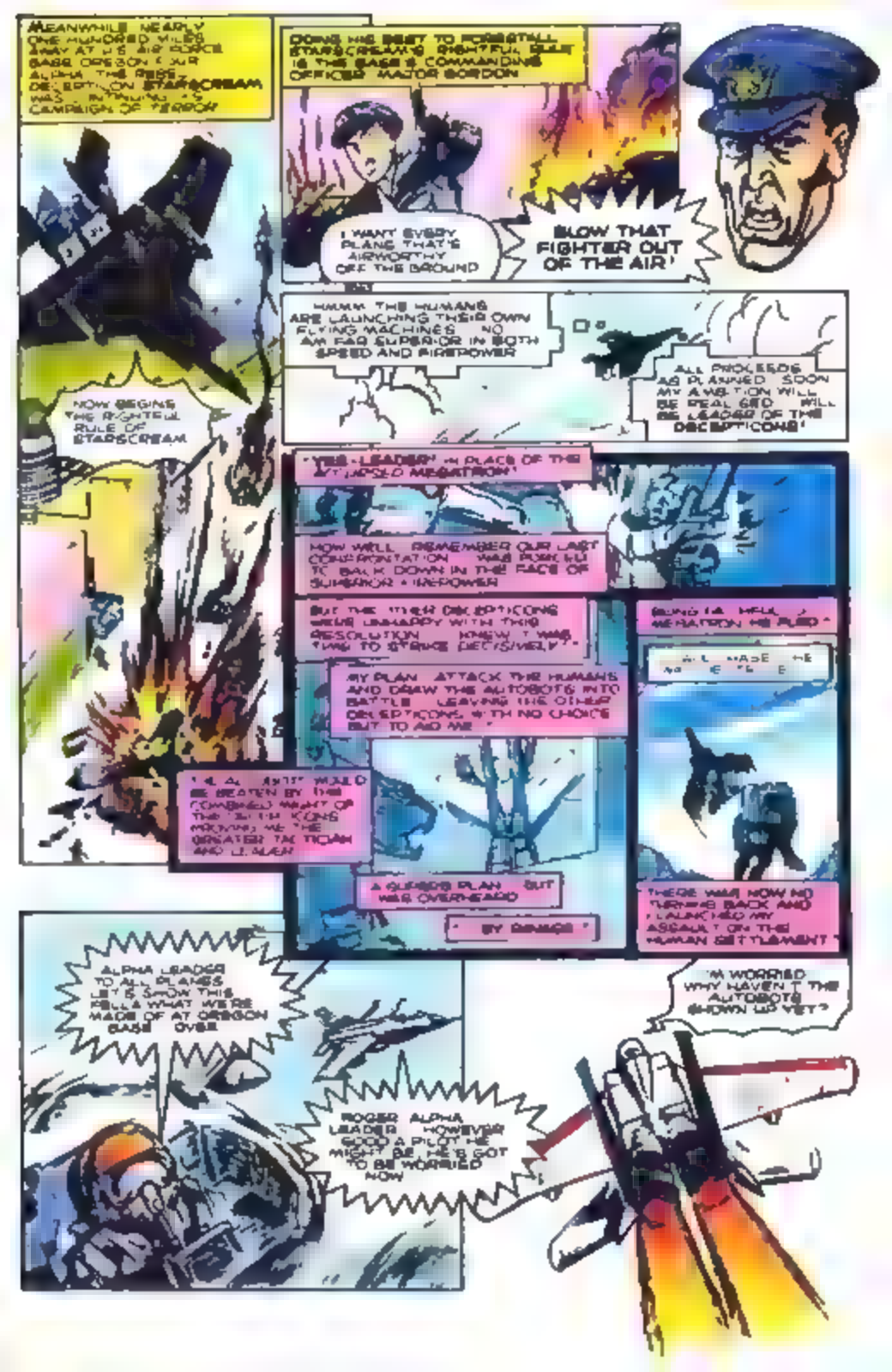
RAVAGE?

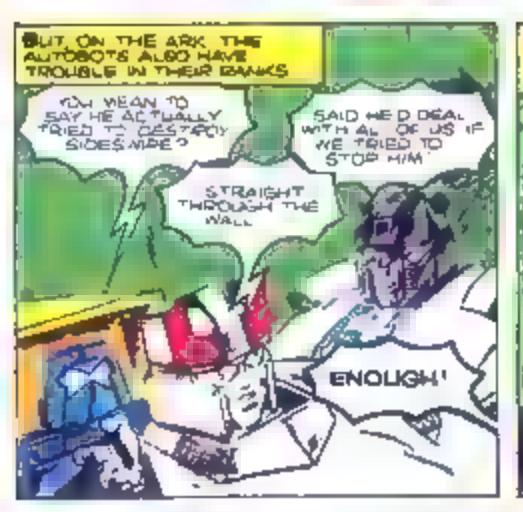
M-Megatron?

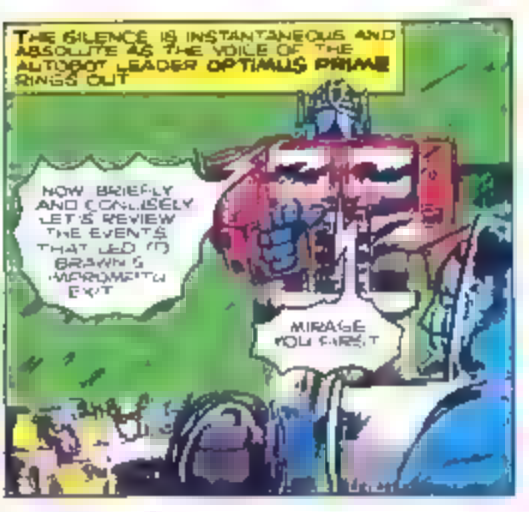
WE HAVE RETURNED JUST IN TIME - QUICKLY RAVAGE WHICH AUTOBOT DID THIS TO YOU?

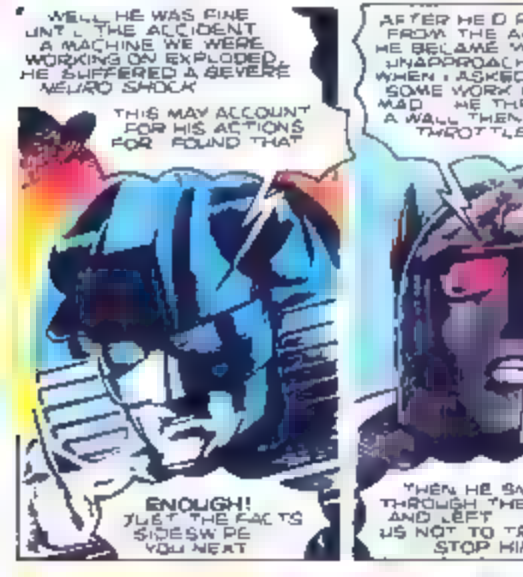
N-NOT AUTOBOT WAS

STARSCREAM!

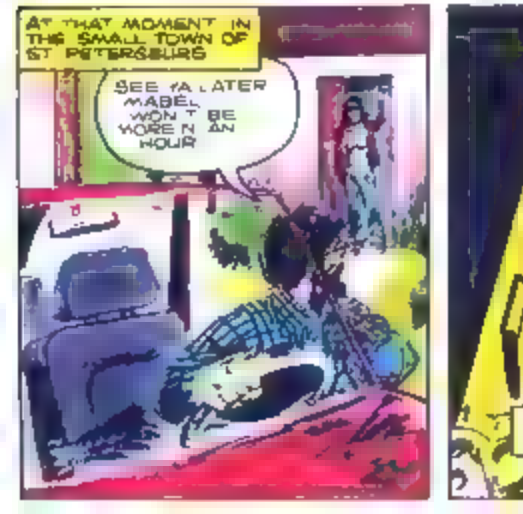

MEANWHILE NEARLY ONE HUNDRED MILES AWAY AT U.S. AIR FORCE BASE OREGON FOUR ALPHA THE REBEL DECEPTICON STARSCREAM WAS INITIATING HIS CAMPAIGN OF TERROR
NOW BEGINS THE RIGHTFUL RULE OF STARSCREAM
DOING HIS BEST TO FORESTALL STARSCREAM'S RIGHTFUL RULE IS THE BASE'S COMMANDING OFFICER MAJOR GORDON
I WANT EVERY PLANE THAT'S AIRWORTHY OFF THE GROUND
BLOW THAT FIGHTER OUT OF THE AIR!
HMMM. THE HUMANS ARE LAUNCHING THEIR OWN FLYING MACHINES. NO AM FAR SUPERIOR IN BOTH SPEED AND FIREPOWER
ALL PROCEEDS AS PLANNED. SOON MY AMBITION WILL BE REALIZED. I WILL BE LEADER OF THE DECEPTICONS!
"THE LEADER" IN PLACE OF THE "TRUSTED MEGATRON"
NOW I WILL REMEMBER OUR LAST CONFRONTATION. I WAS FORCED TO BACK DOWN IN THE FACE OF SUPERIOR FIREPOWER
BUT THE THREE DECEPTICONS WERE UNHAPPY WITH THIS RESOLUTION. I KNEW I WAS "TIME TO STRIKE DECISIVELY".
MY PLAN: ATTACK THE HUMANS AND DRAW THE AUTOBOTS INTO BATTLE, LEAVING THE OTHER DECEPTICONS WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO AID ME.
I'M ALMOST WOULD BE BEATEN BY THE COMBINED MIGHT OF THE "BATTLE KONG" MOVING ME THE GREATER THE TROJAN AND LEMAN
A GENIUS PLAN, BUT WAS OVERHEARD
"BY DAMAGE"
"BUNG IT A HELL, MEGATRON HE RULED"
THERE WAS NOW NO TURNING BACK AND I LAUNCHED MY ASSAULT ON THE HUMAN SETTLEMENT
ALPHA LEADER TO ALL PLANES. LET'S SHOW THIS FELLA WHAT WE'RE MADE OF AT OREGON BASE. OVER.
ROGER ALPHA LEADER. HOWEVER GOOD A PILOT HE MIGHT BE, HE'S GOT TO BE WORRIED NOW.
I'M WORRIED. WHY HAVEN'T THE AUTOBOTS SHOWN UP YET?

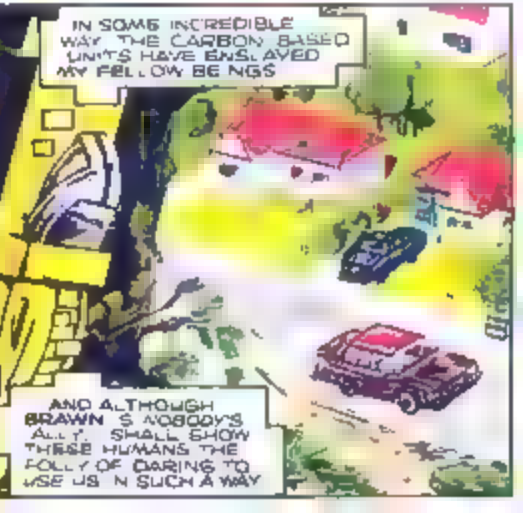

BUT ON THE ARK, THE AUTOBOTS ALSO HAVE TROUBLE IN THEIR RANKS
YOU MEAN TO SAY HE ACTUALLY TRIED TO DESTROY SIDESWIPE?
SAID HE'D DEAL WITH ALL OF US IF WE TRIED TO STOP HIM
STRAIGHT THROUGH THE WALL
ENOUGH!


THE SILENCE IS INSTANTANEOUS AND ABSOLUTE AS THE VOICE OF THE AUTOBOT LEADER OPTIMUS PRIME RINGS OUT
NOW BRIEFLY AND CONCISELY LET'S REVIEW THE EVENTS THAT LED TO BRAWN'S WRONGFUL EXIT
MIRAGE YOU FIRST


WELL, HE WAS FINE UNTIL THE ACCIDENT A MACHINE WE WERE WORKING ON EXPLODED. HE SUFFERED A SEVERE NEURO SHOCK
THIS MAY ACCOUNT FOR HIS ACTIONS FOR FOUND THAT
ENOUGH! JUST THE FACTS SIDESWIPE YOU NEAT
AFTER HE'D RECOVERED FROM THE ACCIDENT HE BECAME MOODY AND UNAPPROACHABLE WHEN I ASKED HIM TO DO SOME WORK HE WENT MAD. HE THREW ME AT A WALL THEN TRIED TO THROTTLE ME
THEN HE SMASHED THROUGH THE ARK'S HULL AND LEFT WARNING US NOT TO TRY TO STOP HIM

I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT AT ALL HE MAY MEAN TO HARM THE HUMANS
AND THAT WE CANNOT ALLOW


AT THAT MOMENT IN THE SMALL TOWN OF ST PETERSBURG
SEE YA LATER MABEL WON'T BE MORE N AN HOUR


IN SOME INCREDIBLE WAY THE CARBON BASED UNITS HAVE ENSLAVED MY FELLOW BEINGS
AND ALTHOUGH BRAWN'S NOBODY'S ALLY, SHALL SHOW THESE HUMANS THE FOLLY OF DARING TO USE US IN SUCH A WAY

TAKE HEART, MY OPPRESSED BRETHREN BRAWN IS COMING TO LIBERATE YOU
HA THERE ARE YOU WHO CAN MATCH THE PEERLESS POWER OF BRAWN
I'M BEGINNING TO ENJOY MYSELF
OBLIVIOUS TO SUCH TRADITIONS AS STOPPING AT A RED LIGHT
WHAT THE - GOTTA SWERVE
I CAN'T HOLD HER SHE'S GOING OVER
BRAKOOOM!
NOOOOO

HOLY THAT MANIAC PHIL GET OVER THERE AND SEE IF YOU CAN HELP M GOING AFTER THAT LUNATIC!

WITHIN SECONDS THE PATROL CAR DREW LEVEL
YOU'VE GOT FIVE SECONDS TO PULL OVER BEFORE I SHOOT YOUR TYRES
HMM AT LAST A BEING WORTHY OF MY ATTENTION
SHALL FREE THIS POOR ENSLAVED SOUL

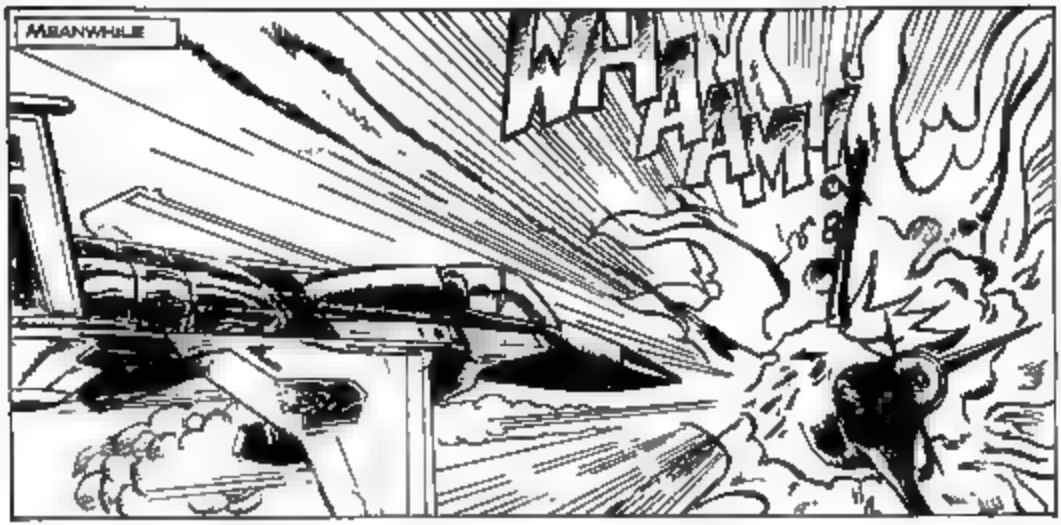
AFTER BOTH HAD PULLED OVER
OKAY FRUITCAKE OUT OF THE CAR NOW SLOWLY WITH YOUR ARMS HIGH AND PALMS FORWARD SO CAN SEE THEY'RE

INSOLENT HUMAN!
YOU DARE THREATEN BRAWN?
NOW GO! BEFORE YOU INCUR MY WRATH! AND BE THANKFUL I CONSIDER YOU BENEATH MY NOTICE

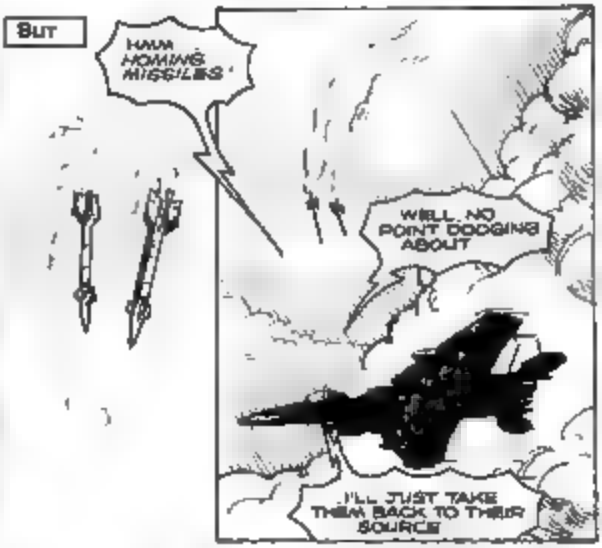
D-DON'T COME ANY CLOSER OR I'LL FIRE

CLICK
Oh My
MY BULLETS HAVE NO EFFECT

WELL ? YOU'RE AFRAID OFF YOU GO THEN
YOU UNGRATEFUL IMBECILE ! IF YOU WON'T TAKE THAT BRAND OF FREEDOM
KERRUM!
TAKE THIS !
AND WHAT OF THE REST OF YOU ? WILL YOU JUST SIT HERE AND LET THESE PUNY HUMANS RULE YOU ?
NO ANSWER?
THEN I'LL DESTROY YOU ALL !
KAARR-
ACHH!!


MEANWHILE
WHAM!

HA! THIS IS FAR TOO EASY ALREADY THREE OF THEIR PLANES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED AND THIS LAST ONE POSES NO PROBLEMA!


BUT
HMM HOMING MISSILES!
WELL, NO POINT DODGING ABOUT
I'LL JUST TAKE THEM BACK TO THEIR SOURCE

NOOO!

YES, STARSCREAM, US, YOUR EX TEAM MATES, THE DECEPTICONS!
AND WE'VE COME TO DESTROY YOU
O, BUT THE AUTOBOTS!

THE AUTOBOTS HAVE PROBLEMS OF THEIR OWN TO SORT OUT
WE CANNOT ALLOW THIS TO CONTINUE, SKRAWN. YOU MUST COME BACK WITH US TO THE ARK
OVER MY DEAD BODY! THE ONLY WAY YOU'LL TAKE ME BACK IS IN PIECES
AND I'LL TAKE MOST OF YOU WITH ME!
NEXT
CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

MARVEL

ANOTHER GIFT INSIDE!

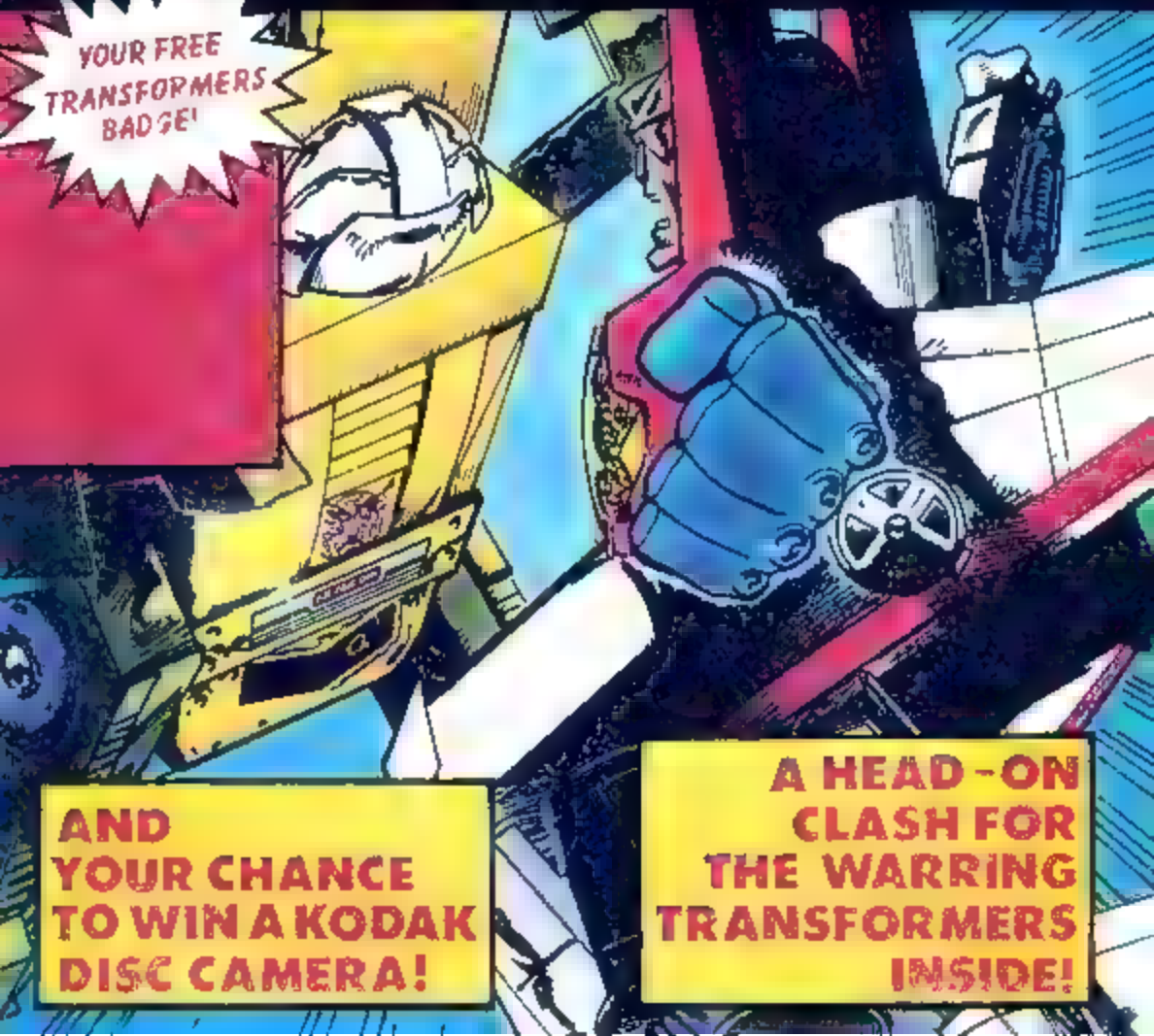
A GIANT GLOSSY TRANSFORMERS POSTER!!!

THE TRANSFORMERS™

HEROIC AUTOBOT

WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE

YOUR FREE TRANSFORMERS BADGE!



AND YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A KODAK DISC CAMERA!

A HEAD-ON CLASH FOR THE WARRING TRANSFORMERS INSIDE!

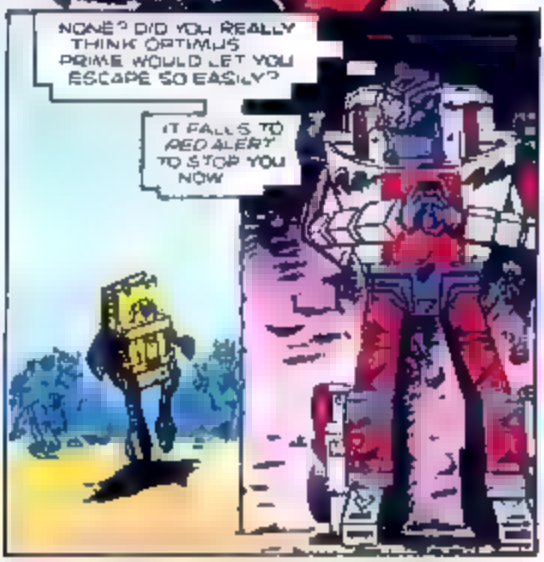
PART 3 CRIME...AND PUNISHMENT!

WITNESS THE **AUTOBOTS** IN PITCHED BATTLE AGAINST A TRANSFORMER OF IMMENSE POWER. IT IS A BATTLE THEY MUST WIN FOR THE SAKE OF THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE.

AND IT IS A BATTLE THEY WISH THEY COULD JUST WALK AWAY FROM.

FOR THEIR FOE IS NONE OTHER THAN THEIR FRIEND AND FELLOW AUTOBOT **BRAWN!**

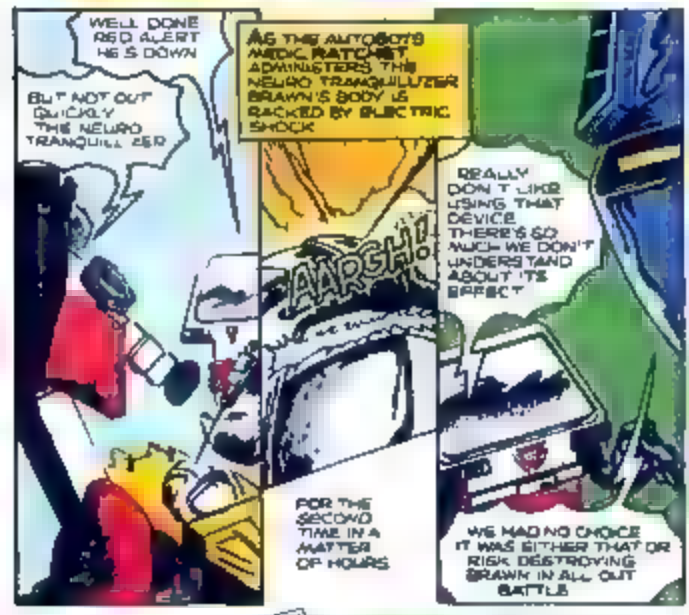
YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME BACK!

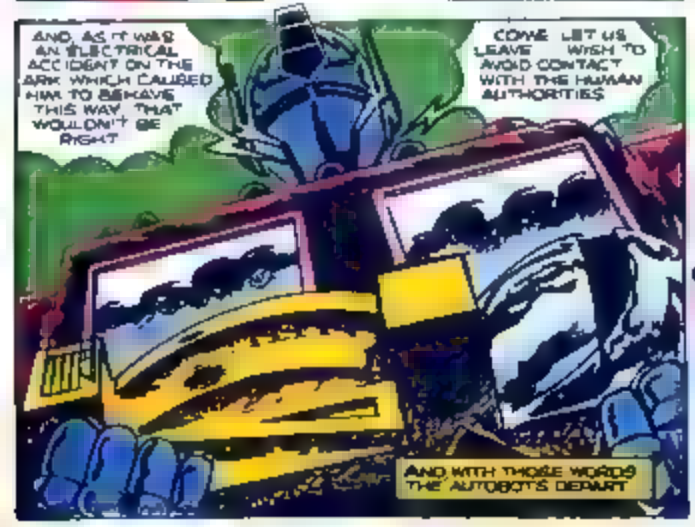


SCRIPT **FURMAN** ART **COLLINS** LETTERING **STARKINGS** COLOURS **HART** EDITOR **CRAN**

SHALL BE GENEROUS, AUTOBOTS AND LET YOU LIVE
BUT DEMON

WHAM


WELL DONE RED ALERT HE'S DOWN
BUT NOT OUT QUICKLY THE NEURO TRANQUILIZER
AS THE AUTOBOTS MEDIC RATCHET ADMINISTERS THE NEURO TRANQUILIZER BRAWN'S BODY IS RACKED BY ELECTRIC SHOCK
AARGH!
REALLY DON'T LIKE USING THAT DEVICE THERE'S SO MUCH WE DON'T UNDERSTAND ABOUT ITS EFFECT
FOR THE SECOND TIME IN A MATTER OF HOURS
WE HAD NO CHOICE IT WAS EITHER THAT OR RISK DESTROYING BRAWN IN ALL OUT BATTLE


AND, AS IT WAS AN ELECTRICAL ACCIDENT ON THE ARK WHICH CAUSED HIM TO BEHAVE THIS WAY, THAT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT
COME LET US LEAVE WISH TO AVOID CONTACT WITH THE HUMAN AUTHORITIES
AND WITH THOSE WORDS THE AUTOBOTS DEPART

LEAVING THE STUNNED POPULACE OF ST PETERSBURG WONDERING WHAT HAD HIT THEM

MEANWHILE

HOW? HOW DID I ALL GO SO BADLY WRONG?

ONE MOMENT I WAS ON THE VERGE OF VICTORY AND THE NEXT I FIND MYSELF ON THE RUN FROM SKYWARP AND THUNDER CRACKER TWO OF THE DECEPT-CONS WHO SHOULD BY NOW BE UNDER MY COMMAND

IN ORDER TO PROVE MYSELF THE SUPERIOR TACTICIAN AND LEADER TO MEGATRON I ATTACKED A HUMAN SETTLEMENT, HOPING TO DRAW THE AUTOBOTS INTO BATTLE.

BUT INSTEAD OF THE AUTOBOTS IT WAS MY FELLOW DECEPTICONS WHO CALLED A HALT TO MY RAMPAGE. MY TREACHERY HAD BEEN DISCOVERED.

AGAINST THE COMBINED MIGHT OF THE DECEPTICONS I HAD NO CHANCE.

I HAD TO FLEE

FOR CRIMES AGAINST MYSELF AND YOUR FELLOW DECEPT-CON RAVAGE I SENTENCE YOU TO UTTER DESTRUCTION

AFTER HIM!

YOU'LL HAVE TO TRY HARDER THAN THAT

THEY ARE NO MATCH FOR ME IN THE AIR. I SHALL ESCAPE, PLAN AND ONE DAY RETURN TO DESTROY MEGATRON

PREPARE TO EXECUTE CONTAINMENT MANOEUVRE. COUR EIGHT SHUT DOWN AUDIOSENSORS NOW

HE'S OUTDISTANCING US THUNDER CRACKER

SHRAAKOOM!

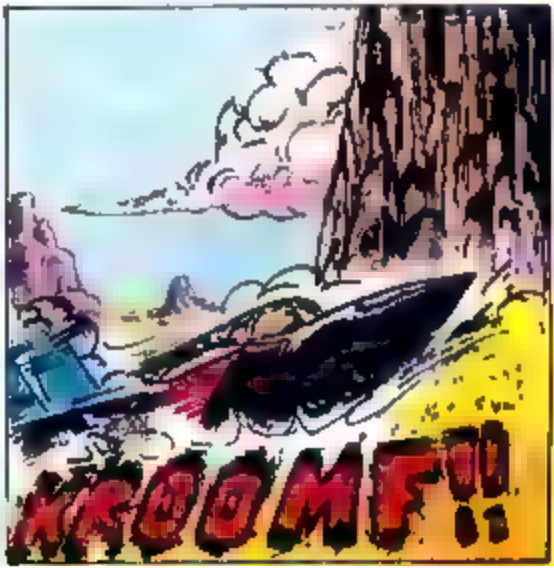
THUNDERCRACKER'S SONIC BOOM IS UNLEASHED WITH FULL DEVASTATING FORCE

PLUNGING THE UNPREPARED STARSCREAM INTO A WILD TAIL SPIN!
SCREEE! S-SENSORY OVERLOAD!
C-CAN'T HANDLE T

GIVEN TIME, A FLIER OF STARSCREAM'S CALIBRE COULD PULL OFF AN AMAZING RECOVERY AND STILL ESCAPE

THAT TIME HAS JUST RUN OUT!
OH NO! SKYWARP!

BANG! BANG! YOU'RE FINISHED, STARSCREAM!


KROOMF!!

TRANSFORMING IN MID AIR, THE TWO DECEPTICON WARRIORS LAND.
AND FROM WITHIN THUNDER-CRACKER COMES A WALTHER P 38 TRANSFORMING AND ENLARGING SEVERAL TIMES OVER INTO
MEGATRON!
AND SO IT ENDS STARSCREAM TRANSFORM AND MEET YOUR FATE AS A DECEPTICON WARRIOR
I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU TO OBLITERATION BEYOND ALL POSSIBILITY OF RE ANIMATION
WAIT!
INDEED I AM A DECEPTICON WARRIOR, MEGATRON AND AS SUCH I DEMAND MY RIGHT TO TRIAL BY COMBAT
WELL?
IT IS HIS RIGHT
KNOW I'D LIKE TO GO OUT FIGHTING
VERY WELL
BUT UNDERSTAND WELL THAT THIS IS JUST A TEMPORARY REPRIEVE

MEANWHILE

I TELL YOU I WOULDN'T TRY TO ESCAPE EVEN IF I COULD

ALL THIS YOU'RE TELLING ME IT'S LIKE YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE I HAVE AND ALWAYS WILL BE LOYAL TO THE AUTOBOTS

WISH I COULD BELIEVE YOU BRAWN BUT UNTIL I AM SURE WILL NOT SANCTION YOUR RELEASE

IT SEEMS BRAWN'S MEMORY OF EVENTS EXTENDS ONLY AS FAR AS THE EXPLODING MACHINE

IF THIS WAS THE CAUSE OF HIS BEHAVIOUR - THE SECOND SHOCK OF MY NEURO TRANQUILLISER MIGHT HAVE CURED HIM

IF! MIGHT! I NEED MORE THAN THAT

PERHAPS I CAN HELP YOU SEE WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN THE ORIGINAL ACCIDENT AND I'M

PERFECTLY ALRIGHT PLEASE MIRAGE LET US STICK TO THE MATTER IN HAND!

BUT BUT

ENOUGH!

FOR THE MOMENT BRAWN WILL BE KEPT RESTRAINED, UNTIL I HAVE DEVISED A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM

RATCHET KEEP THE PATIENT UNDER CLOSE OBSERVATION

WAIT! YOU MUST HEAR ME OUT

WHAT IS IT, MIRAGE?

THIS IS IMPORTANT OPTIMUS YOU SEE THE SAME ACCIDENT THAT AFFECTED BRAWN ALSO HAD CONSIDERABLE EFFECT ON ME!

MIRAGE TALKS AND AT LAST OPTIMUS PRIME LISTENS

CURSES! EVER THE OPPORTUNIST STARSCREAM HAS CLUTCHED THE VERY STRAW THAT MAY SAVE HIM FROM MY WRATH

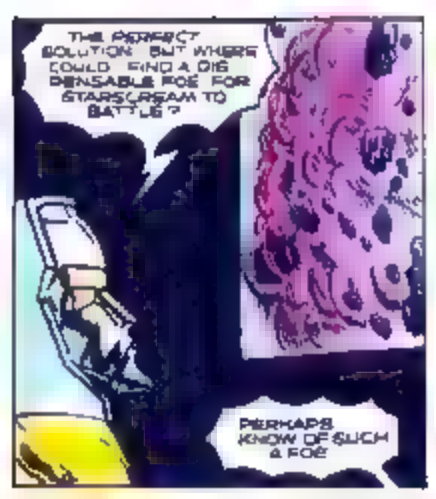
TRIAL BY COMBAT AS A WARRIOR RACE IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT WE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO FIGHT FOR OUR EXISTENCE NO MATTER WHAT THE CRIME

AH CYBERTRON HOW YEARN TO TREAD ONCE MORE YOUR GLEAMING LANDS LANDS WHICH I BY RIGHT SHOULD NOW RULE OVER INSTEAD I FIND MYSELF TRAPPED ON THIS BACKWARD MUDBALL NOT KNOWING IF THE WAR WITH THE AUTOBOTS STILL RAGES OR IF WE WON!

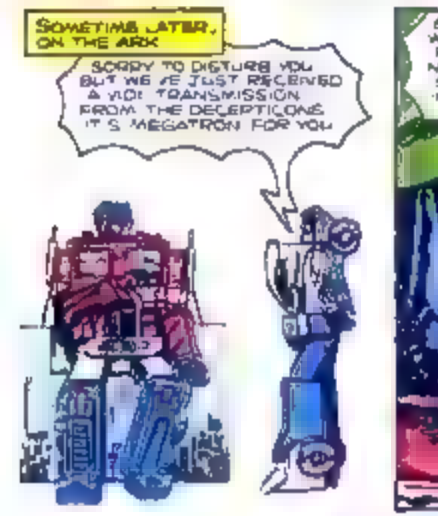
THESE HISTORY TAPES DO NOTHING TO QUENCH MY DESIRE TO RETURN BUT PERHAPS IF REVIEW A TRIAL BY COMBAT MAY YET FIND A WAY TO HAVE STARSCREAM DESTROYED

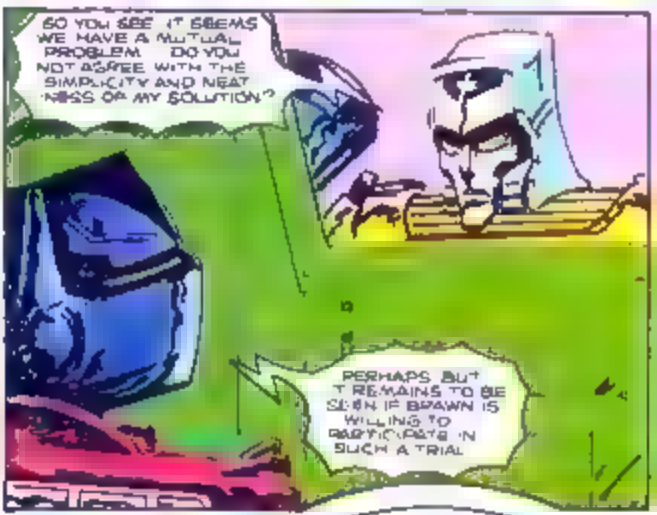
AH YES REMEMBER THESE TWO
"TORNADO AND EARTHQUAKE ONE A TRAITOR THE OTHER A REBEL BOTH HAD OPTED FOR TRIAL BY COMBAT
TO THE END THEN
ENOUGH TALK
LET'S FIGHT!
UNNGH!
LIKE HIS NAMESAKE TORNADO SPUN CREATING WINDS THAT THREATENED TO TEAR EARTHQUAKE APART
"BUT EARTHQUAKE WAS STRONG AND NEEDED ONLY TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE GROUND
NOT SO CLEVER NOW EH TORNADO? MINE IS THE POWER TO WARP THE VERY SURFACE OF CYBERTRON
WHA
LET'S SEE WHAT IT DOES TO YOU!

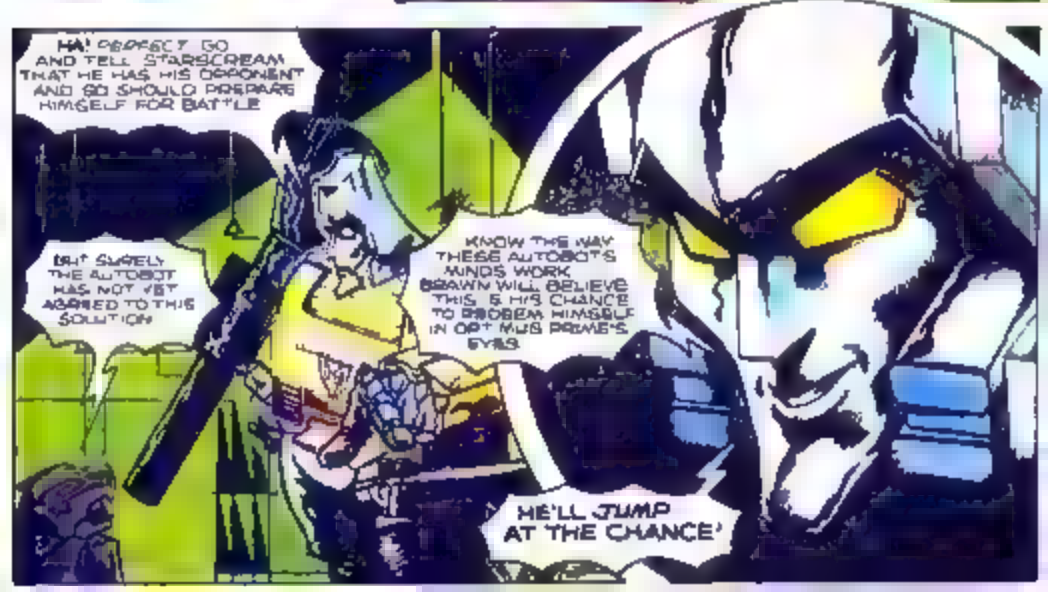
MUGGED!
BUT I WON'T!
AAARRGH!
AND STRUCK
WEEAARR!
BATHOOM!

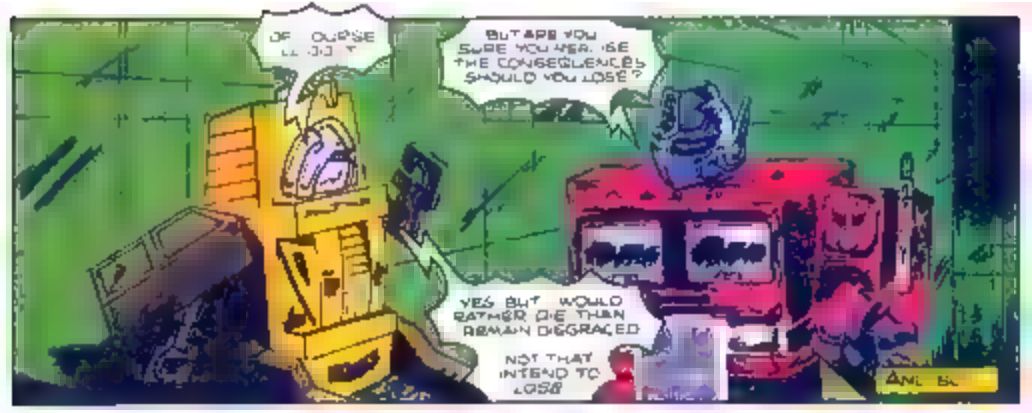

THE PERFECT SOLUTION BUT WHERE COULD FIND A DISPENSABLE FOE FOR STARSCREAM TO BATTLE?
PERHAPS KNOW OF SUCH A FOE

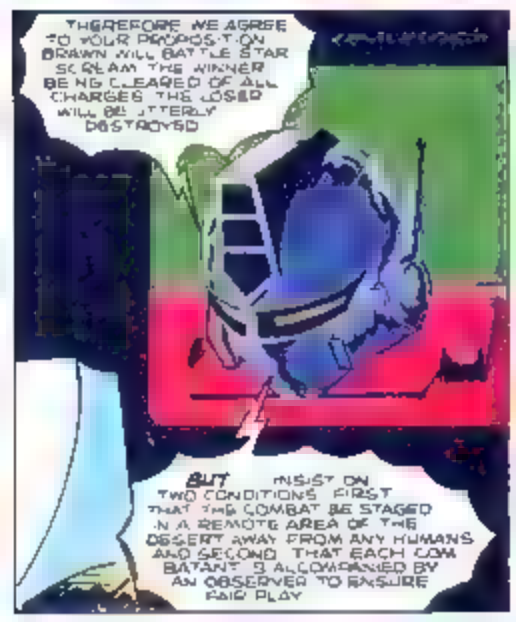
WHO? RAVAGE! HAVE YOU NOW TAKEN TO SPYING ON ME?
FORGIVE ME GREAT MEGATRON BUT COULDN'T HELP OVERHEARING YOUR PREDICAMENT
YOU SEE HAVE BEEN MONITORING THE HUMAN'S BROADCASTS AND BELIEVE 'VE FOUND AN OPPONENT FOR STARSCREAM

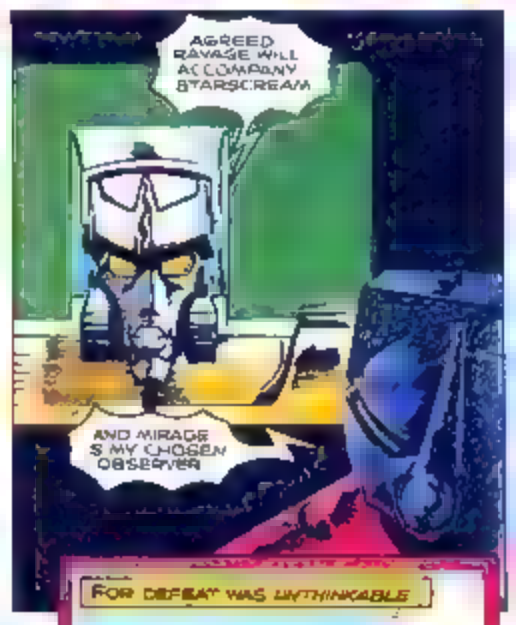

SOMETIME LATER, ON THE ARK
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU BUT WE'VE JUST RECEIVED A VIDEO TRANSMISSION FROM THE DECEPTICONS IT'S MEGATRON FOR YOU

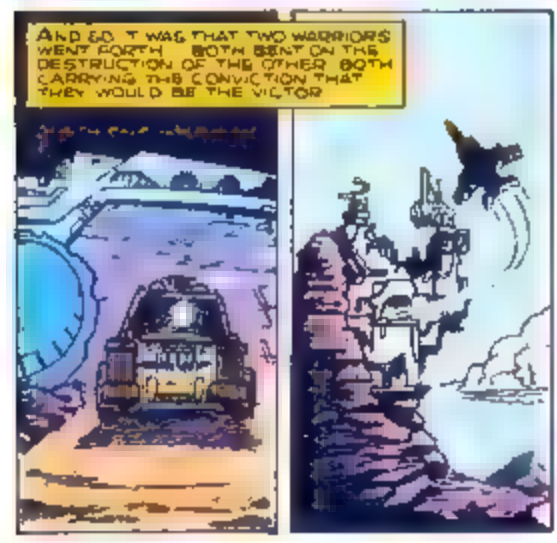

SO YOU SEE IT SEEMS WE HAVE A MUTUAL PROBLEM DO YOU NOT AGREE WITH THE SIMPLICITY AND NEATNESS OF MY SOLUTION?
PERHAPS BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF BRAWN IS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A TRIAL

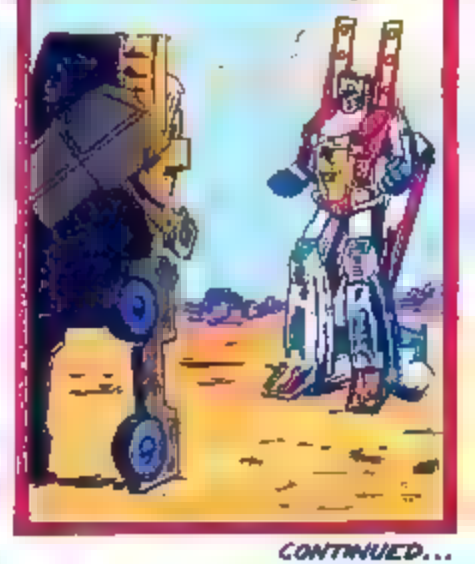

HA! PERFECT GO AND TELL STARSCREAM THAT HE HAS HIS OPPONENT AND SO SHOULD PREPARE HIMSELF FOR BATTLE
BUT SURELY THE AUTOBOT HAS NOT YET AGREED TO THIS SOLUTION
KNOW THE WAY THESE AUTOBOTS MINDS WORK BRAWN WILL BELIEVE THIS IS HIS CHANCE TO PROVEN HIMSELF IN OPTIMUS PRIME'S EYES
HE'LL JUMP AT THE CHANCE!


OF COURSE
BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU WER. BE THE CONSEQUENCES SHOULD YOU LOSE?
YES BUT WOULD RATHER DIE THAN REMAIN DISGRACED
NOT THAT INTEND TO LOSE


THEREFORE WE AGREE TO YOUR PROPOSITION BRAWN WILL BATTLE STARSCREAM THE WINNER BEING CLEARED OF ALL CHARGES THE LOSER WILL BE UTTERLY DESTROYED
BUT INSIST ON TWO CONDITIONS FIRST THAT THE COMBAT BE STAGED IN A REMOTE AREA OF THE DESERT AWAY FROM ANY HUMANS AND SECOND THAT EACH COMBATANT IS ACCOMPANIED BY AN OBSERVER TO ENSURE FAIR PLAY


AGREED RAVAGE WILL ACCOMPANY STARSCREAM
AND MIRAGE IS MY CHOSEN OBSERVER


AND SO IT WAS THAT TWO WARRIORS WENT FORTH BOTH BENT ON THE DESTRUCTION OF THE OTHER BOTH CARRYING THE CONVICTION THAT THEY WOULD BE THE VICTOR


FOR DEFEAT WAS UNTHINKABLE

CONTINUED...

YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MUST DO IF STARSCREAM WINS ?
YOU MUST PUT WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD ME TO GOOD USE
AND SO THE COMBAT BEGAN EACH UNAWARE THAT THE OBSERVERS WERE NOT TO BE QUITE SO NEUTRAL
FOR THE AUTOBOTS!
FOR MYSELF!
NEXT
TRIAL AND ERROR!

MARVEL

FORTNIGHTLY
26th Apr – 3rd May 1985 No 19 27p

WIN A VALIENT TURTLE! PLUS YOUR MAY CALENDAR!

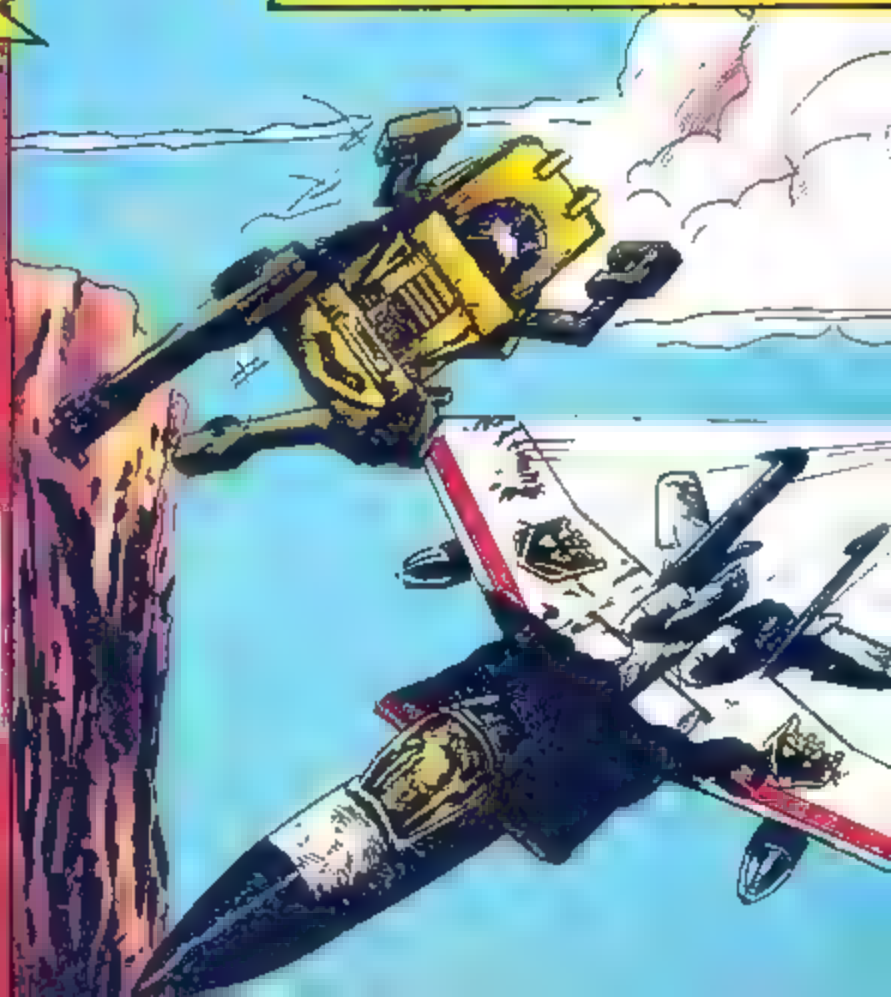
THE TRANSFORMERS

HEROIC AUTOBOT

WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE

FREE TRANSFORMERS BADGE!

THE ENEMY WITHIN!



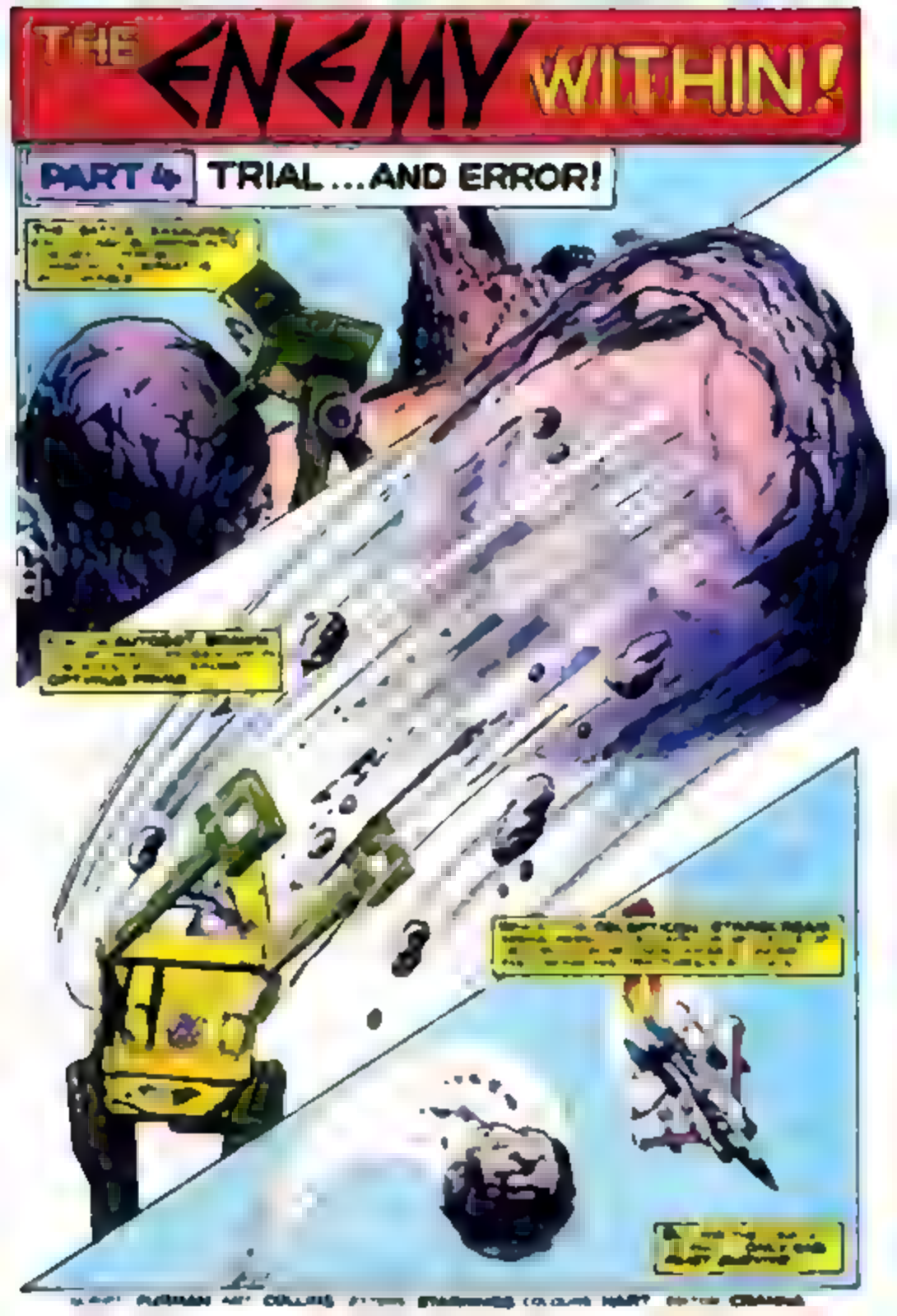
ACTION FACTS!

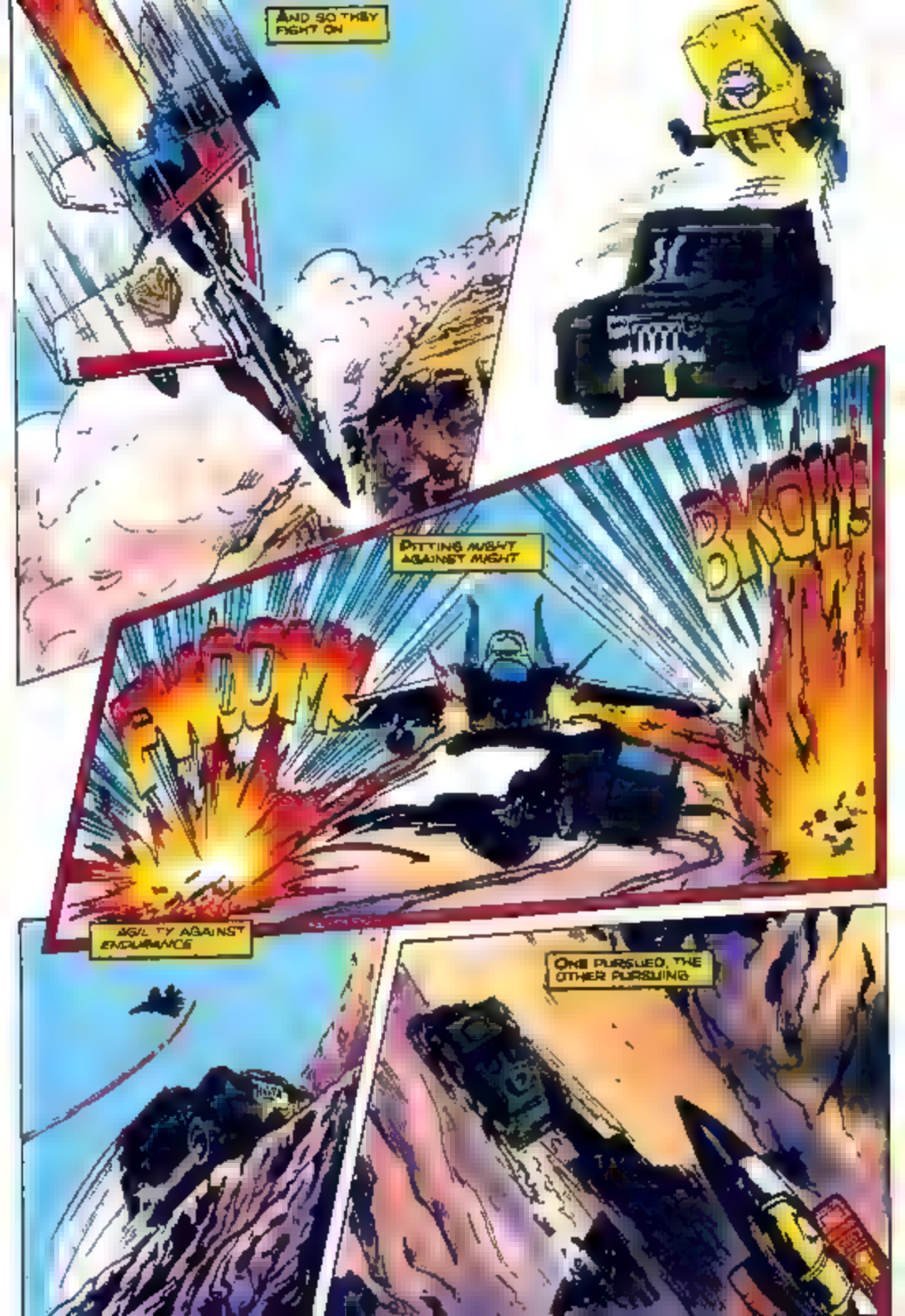
MATT AND THE CAT

And introducing PLANET TERRY!

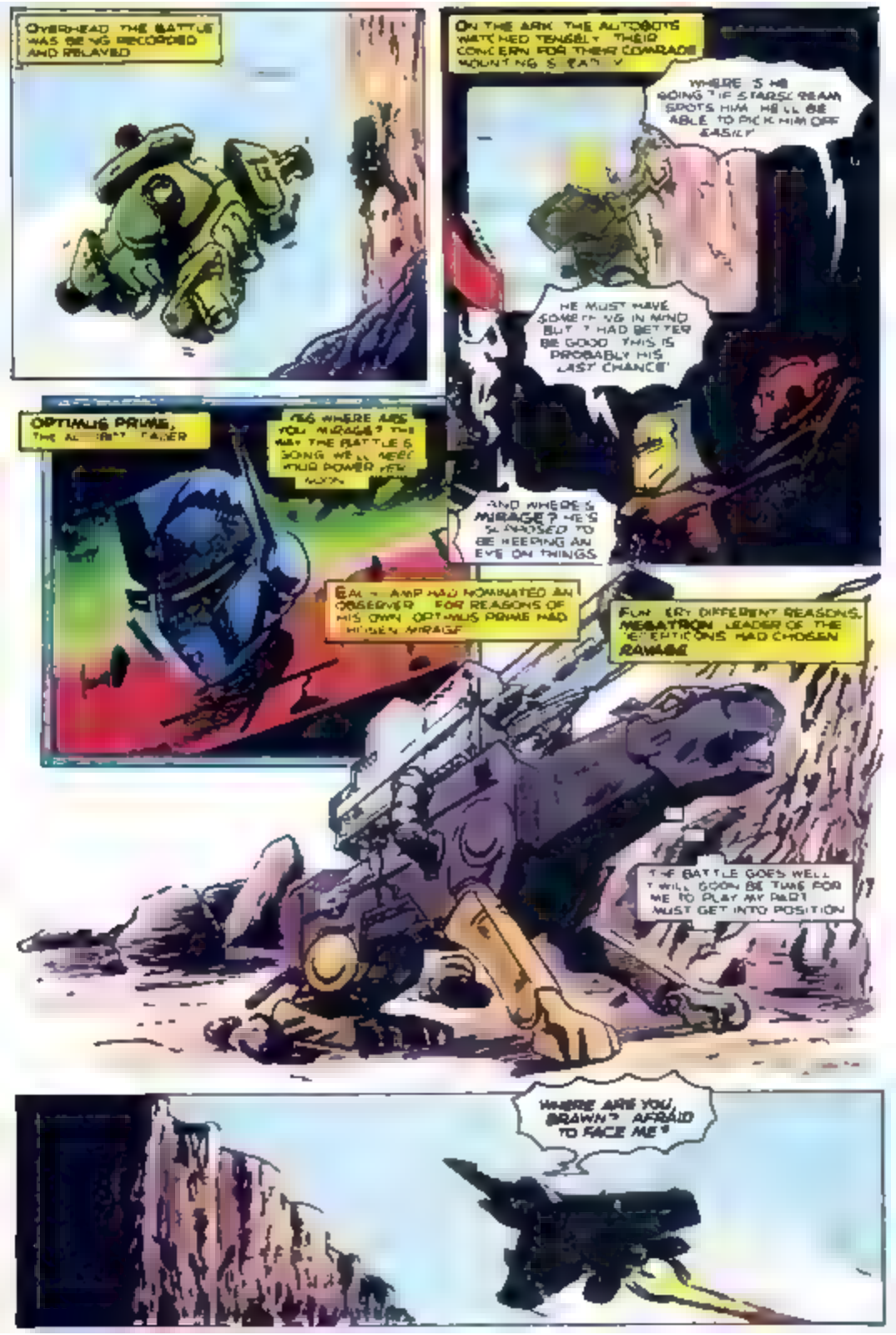
THE ENEMY WITHIN!

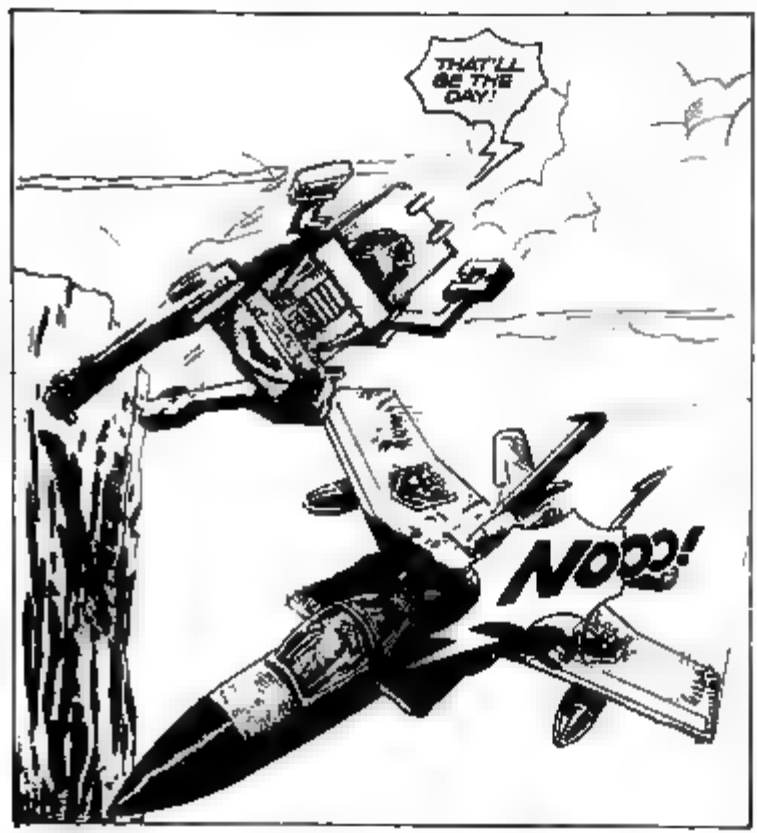
PART 4 TRIAL ...AND ERROR!




And so they fight on
Pitting might against might
BOOM
BOOM
Agility against endurance
One pursued, the other pursuing

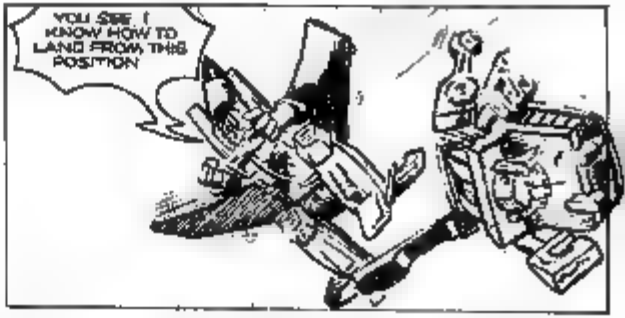
WHEN SUDDENLY
SCREEEEE
WHA - ?
OH NO!
WITH A MIGHTY ROAR STARSCREAM STRUGGLES TO AVOID DISASTER
WHAT DOES IT TAKE? I'M RUNNING OUT OF IDEAS AND STAMINA. IF I DON'T FINISH THIS SOON, HE'LL NAIL ME FOR SURE


OVERHEAD THE BATTLE WAS BEING RECORDED AND RELAYED
ON THE ARK THE AUTOBOTS WATCHED TENSELY THEIR CONCERN FOR THEIR COMRADE MOUNTING
WHERE IS HE GOING? IF STARSCREAM SPOTS HIM HE'LL BE ABLE TO PICK HIM OFF EASILY
HE MUST HAVE SOMETHING IN MIND BUT IT HAD BETTER BE GOOD THIS IS PROBABLY HIS LAST CHANCE
OPTIMUS PRIME,
YES WHERE ARE YOU MIRAGE? THE WAY THE BATTLE IS GOING WE'LL NEED YOUR POWER VERY SOON
AND WHERE'S MIRAGE? HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE KEEPING AN EYE ON THINGS
EACH CAMP HAD NOMINATED AN OBSERVER FOR REASONS OF HIS OWN OPTIMUS PRIME HAD CHOSEN MIRAGE
FOR VERY DIFFERENT REASONS, MEGATRON LEADER OF THE DECEPTICONS HAD CHOSEN RAVAGE
THE BATTLE GOES WELL IT WILL SOON BE TIME FOR ME TO PLAY MY PART MUST GET INTO POSITION
WHERE ARE YOU, BRAWN? AFRAID TO FACE ME?


THAT'LL BE THE DAY!
NOOO!

KRRRUMP!

BRAWN HANGS ON GRIMLY
IDIOT! YOU'VE PLAYED STRAIGHT INTO MY HANDS


YOU SEE I KNOW HOW TO LAND FROM THIS POSITION

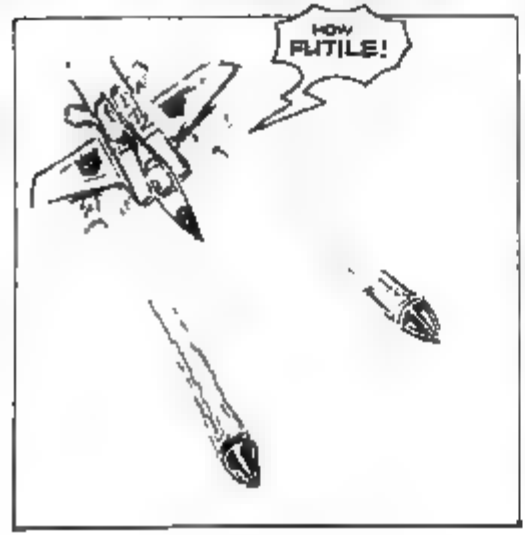
YOU DON'T!

AND NOW HAVE THE PLEASURE OF FINISHING YOU OFF!

THAT CAVE WILL AFFORD YOU LITTLE PROTECTION!

BUT HIDDEN BY THE CAVE, WAITS MIRAGE
IT IS TIME FOR ME TO ACT - I MUST CONCENTRATE!

SURRENDER?!
HOW QUAINT!


HOW FUTILE!

THEY SAY THAT A MAN'S LIFE FLASHES BEFORE HIM IN MOMENTS LIKE THIS. CAN THE SAME BE SAID OF AN AUTOBOT?
DOES BRAWN SEE HIS LIFE ON CYBERTRON, THE WAR WITH THE DECEPTICONS, THE ARRIVAL ON EARTH IN THESE LAST MICRO-SECONDS?
NEXT:
ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS

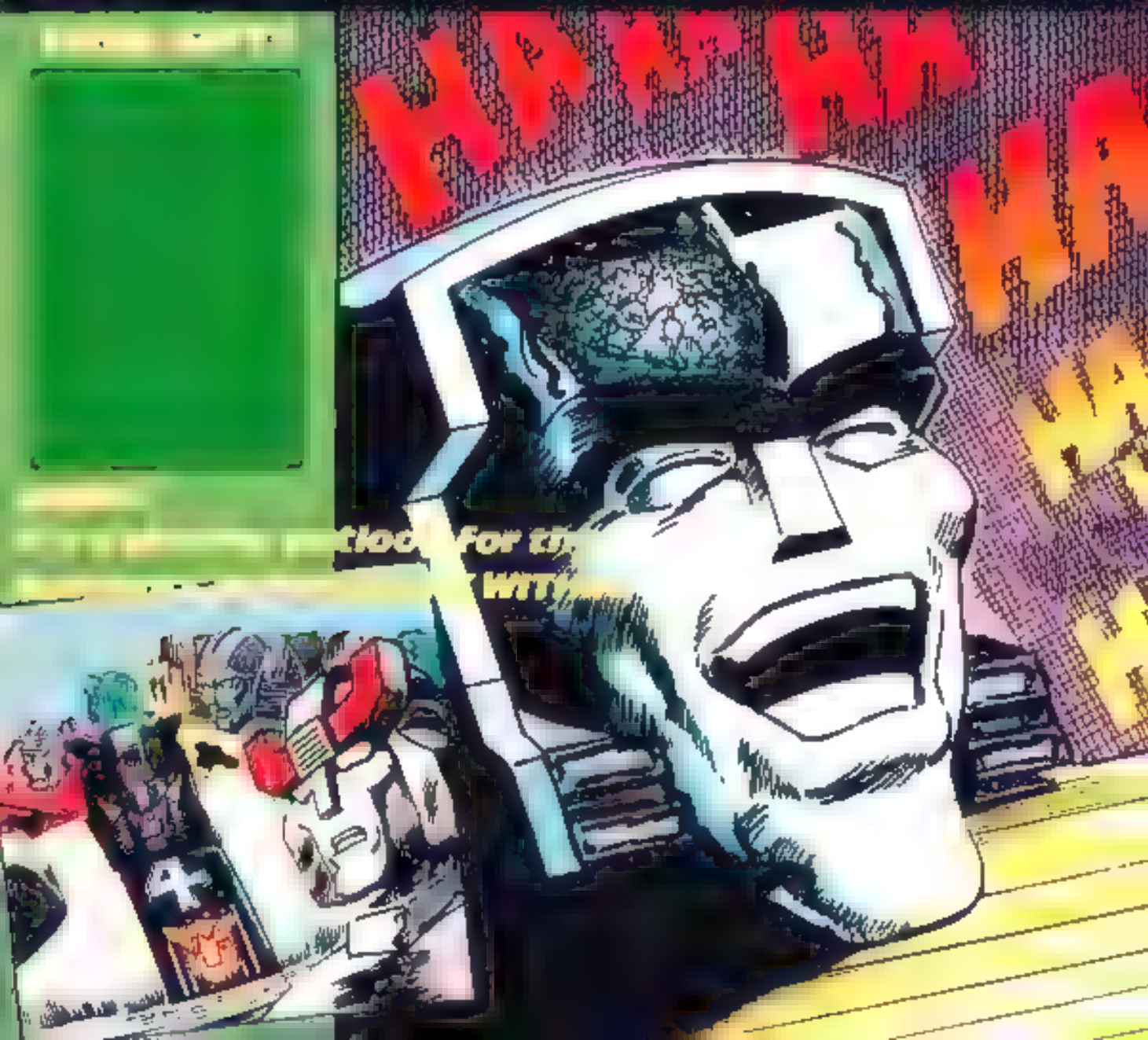
MARVEL

LOTS OF PRIZES IN OUR MODEL 8 COMPETITION!

THE TRANSFORMERS

HEROIC AUTOBOT

WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE



THE ENEMY WITHIN!
ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS!
STARSCREAM
BRAWN
BRAKKOOOM!
NO NO
BRAWN!?
BRAWN HAS BEEN DESTROYED

MEANWHILE...
AH - THE PERFECT END TO A PERFECT DAY NOT ONLY AM I NOW CLEARED OF ALL CHARGES AGAINST ME BUT I ALSO GOT TO DESTROY THAT AUTOBOT
I HOPE ALL MY FELLOW DECEPTICONS WERE
"... WATCHING ME..."
STARSCREAM! I FACED YOUR 'UNFETTERED WRATH' AND SURVIVED.
NEEEAARGH!
UNFETTERED WRATH OF RAVAGE!
ZIKREE
HA!
BAWOOM!

STARSCREAM! BUT WHAT HAPPENED? WE SAW HIM VICTORIOUS WITH ONLY MINIMAL DAMAGE

I SAW WHAT HAPPENED!

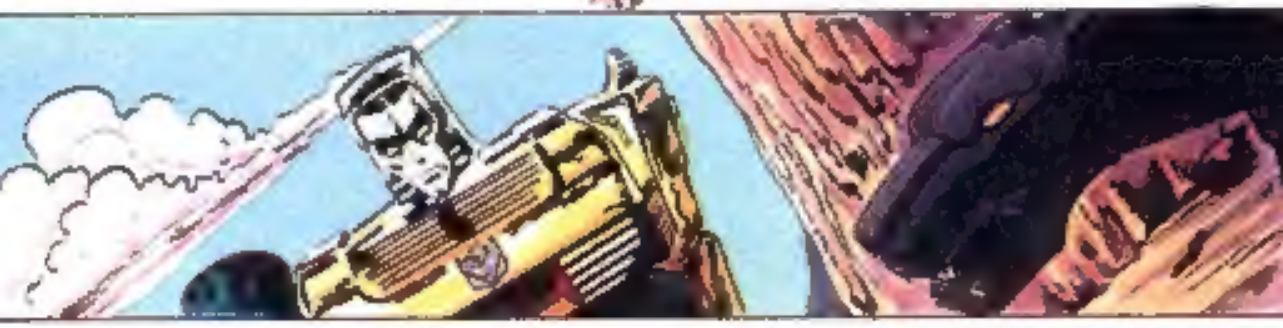
IT WAS THE AUTOBOTS - THEIR OBSERVER FIRED AT HIM - I'M AMAZED HE MADE IT THIS FAR!

THE BACKSTABBERS! THEY COULDN'T TAKE THEIR DEFEAT AND SO THEY SHOT HIM DOWN!

WE MUST STRIKE BACK! SHOW THEM WE'RE NOT TO BE TRICKED!

DESTROY THEM ONCE AND FOR ALL!

ENOUGH! I WILL DECIDE WHAT IS TO BE DONE - TAKE STARSCREAM TO THE INFIRMARY THEN ASSEMBLE IN THE WAR ROOM



HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

FORGIVE MY EXUBERANCE, RAVAGE, BUT THIS LITTLE EPISODE HAS RESOLVED ITSELF SO NEATLY - WE HAVE DESTROYED AN AUTOBOT, TAUGHT STARSCREAM THE ERROR OF HIS WAYS AND GIVEN YOU YOUR REVENGE ON HIM

AND YOUR RESTLESS TROOPS

ARE NO LONGER RESTLESS. THEY CRAVED ACTION, ENOUGH IT SEEMS TO QUESTION MY AUTHORITY. BUT NOW, THANKS TO STARSCREAM, IT IS **MEGATRON** WHO WILL GIVE THEM WHAT THEY DESIRE

COME. IT IS TIME TO BANG THE FINAL NAILS INTO THE COFFINS OF STARSCREAM'S AMBITION AND THE AUTOBOTS!

MEGATRON'S SATISFACTION AT THE CONCLUSION OF EVENTS IS NOT SHARED BY THE AUTOBOTS. THE AWFUL SPECTRE OF DEFEAT STARES THEM IN THE FACE...

A FRIEND, A COMRADE AT ARMS, HAS FALLEN. HOW LONG BEFORE THEY TOO SHARE HIS FATE?

HEY, WHY ALL THE LONG FACES?

B-BUT BRAWN? WE SAW...?

YOU LOT GOING TO STAND THERE STAMMERING, OR ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE US A HAND?

BUT WE SAW BRAWN DESTROYED... HOW?

JUST GIVE ME A CHANCE AND I'LL EXPLAIN. YOU'LL REMEMBER THE EXPLOSION THAT CAUSED ALL THE TROUBLE IN THE FIRST PLACE. THE ONE THAT CAUSED BRAWN TO ACT SO OUT OF CHARACTER?

WELL... IT ALSO AFFECTED MY POWER TO CREATE HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGES OF MYSELF.

MY POWER WAS INCREASED A THOUSAND-FOLD. I FOUND I WAS ABLE TO PROJECT IMAGES OF WHATEVER I PICTURED IN MY MIND. AUTOBOT DECEPTICON, EVEN THE AUDIO-VISUAL MONITOR AT THE BATTLE SITE, SAW STARSCREAM'S MISSILES DESTROY BRAWN, WHO WAS IN FACT, SAFE IN THE CAVE.

I TOLD MIRAGE THAT, ONCE BRAWN HAD PROVED HIS LOYALTY, HE WAS TO FIND A WAY TO CONVINCE THE DECEPTICONS THAT STARSCREAM HAD WON...

BUT ENOUGH OF ALL THIS SELF-CONGRATULATION, BRAWN - WELCOME BACK TO THE RANKS OF THE AUTOBOTS. YOU HAVE ACQUITTED YOURSELF NOBLY.

LONG LIVE OPTIMUS PRIME AND THE AUTOBOTS!

NO DOUBT THEY'RE ALL LAUGHING AND SNEERING - THINKING THEY'VE GOT THE BETTER OF US
BUT THEY SHALL SOON LEARN THE ERROR OF THEIR WAYS

WHEN STARSCREAM ADVOCATED ATTACK EARLIER IT WAS TOO SOON - BUT NOW NOW IS THE TIME TO CRUSH THE AUTOBOTS! ARE YOU ALL SOLIDLY BEHIND ME?
YES - WE'RE WITH YOU - THE AUTOBOTS ARE FINISHED!

YES... FINISHED! THIS TIME THERE WILL BE NO MISTAKE. THE AUTOBOTS WILL PERISH
AND THE ARK WILL FINALLY BELONG TO THE DECEPTICONS!
NEXT:
RAIDERS OF THE LAST ARK!